

Mixed stands: Forest stands containing a variety of tree species.

Monoculture: The cultivation of a single species of trees to the exclusion of all others.

Multiple use: The process of coordinating a property's primary land and/or resource use with compatible, secondary uses. Multiple use may include recreation, educational or scientific use, greenbelts and watershed protection. These uses will be allowed to the extent they are compatible with the financial obligations of trust management.

Mycorrhiza: An association between fungal hyphae and roots of higher plants, probably representing a condition of balanced parasitism through which, in some cases at least, the plant obtains nourishment from the fungal hyphae.

Native: Indigenous to or originated naturally in Washington; remaining or growing in an unaltered condition.

Natural Area Preserves: Lands that are set aside to protect examples of undisturbed terrestrial or aquatic ecosystems, rare plants and animal species and unique geologic features.

Natural Heritage Program: A program established by the department to assist in selecting and nominating outstanding natural areas.

Natural Resources Conservation Area (NRCA): Lands designated by the legislature to protect special scenic and ecological values. These lands include portions of Cypress Island, Skagit County; Mt. Si, King County; Woodard Bay, Thurston County; and Dishman Hills, Spokane County.

Off-road vehicles (ORV): Any nonhighway vehicle when used for cross-country travel on trails or on land, water, snow, ice, marsh, swamp or other natural terrain.

Old growth: A successional stage after maturity that may or may not include climax old growth species. Douglas-fir trees older 160 year which are past full maturity and showing signs of deterioration are generally classified as old growth.

Pests: living biotic organisms that adversely affect trees are generically referred to as pests.

Population viability: The probability that a population of wildlife will persist for a specified period of time.

Precommercial thinning: Cutting trees at an immature age to allow for better growth of the remaining trees. May also include removal of excess and/or diseased trees in the 10-35 year class.

Right of way: Permits to enter or cross state forest land for the purpose of conducting specific operations, such as surveys, environmental impact studies, cutting dangerous trees, etc.

Regeneration: The renewal of a tree crop at an adequate stocking level of desired tree species by natural or artificial means. Natural regeneration depends on seed-fall from mature trees. Artificial regeneration requires seeds to produce nursery stock for planting.

Riparian area: The area that influences and is strongly influenced by an adjacent aquatic environment. They occur between aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems but have distinct vegetation and soil characteristics. These areas are associated with rivers, lakes, reservoirs and intermittent or perennial streams. They may also be adjacent to springs, seeps, and wetlands.

Riparian Management Zone (RMZ): The area immediately adjacent to streams, rivers, swamps, ponds and lakes which directly affect conditions within the body of water as well as the associated wetlands. An RMZ includes all vegetation in the zone. Different size zones are established by the Forest Practices Act and are intended to protect water quality, fish and wildlife habitat and other natural resources in the area.

Rotation age: The planned length of time that trees will be left to grow until harvest. An average rotation (cutting) age is set for management activities and is used for calculating harvest levels.

Salvage cutting: Removing snags, downed logs or dead and dying material.

Seed tree (reserve tree) cutting: An even-aged silvicultural system which removes the mature timber in one harvest except for a small number of seed trees left singly or in small groups. These trees furnish seed to restock the harvested area naturally and/or to provide habitat for cavity-nesting wildlife. Only a small percentage of the original timber volume is left standing, usually less than 10 percent, or 4-20 trees per acre. The primary character is open, but the crown cover is not enough to make the microclimate of the harvested area different from a broad, open clearcut area. Seed tree cutting can also refer to the removal of remaining seed trees after the new stand is established.

Selective cutting: A general term for partial cutting or salvage cutting in which individual trees are removed.

Seral: Successional stages prior to climax.

Seral stage: Successional stages in a forest stand prior to climax or final stage of that stand.

Shelterwood cutting: An even-aged silvicultural system which removes mature timber in a series of two or more harvests made near the end of stand rotation. A new even-aged stand is established under the shelter of a partial canopy of remaining trees. Site and seedling protection are the principle function of the residual trees in each stage of harvesting. Four types of harvesting are possible: preparatory cutting; seed cutting; intermediate removal cutting; and final cutting. Preparatory cutting and seed cutting prepare the stand for regeneration. Usually more than 20 well distributed trees are left per acre. Final cutting removes the remainder of the original stand after regeneration is established.

Silviculture: The art and science of growing and tending forest crops by controlling the establishment, composition, distribution and representation of tree species, age and/or size classes.

Site preparation: Activities that prepare the ground for growing new trees after harvest. These activities will differ depending on the method of regeneration to be used.

Skyline logging: A method in which a block or carriage rides on a skyline (a cableway stretched between two points and used as a track). This system allows logs to be lifted off the ground.

Slash: Forest debris such as tree tops, limbs, brush and other dead, flammable material remaining after logging.

Slash burning: Planned and controlled burning of forest debris, typically before replanting but also used to reduce and/or prevent fire and other hazards.

Special lands: Lands designed for special purposes, such as Natural Area Preserves, Natural Resource Conservation Areas and wetlands.

Species (singular and plural): A natural population or group of populations which transmit specific characteristics from parent to off-spring.

Species richness: The relative number of species of plants or animals present in an area. The more species present, the high the degree of species richness.

Stand: A homogeneous unit of trees that can be clearly differentiated from the surrounding forest by its age, composition, structure, site quality or geography.

State forest lands: The 2.1 million acres of land managed by the Department of Natural Resources and addressed by the Forest Resource Plan. State forest lands include FEDERAL GRANT lands, FOREST BOARD lands and COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOREST RESERVES.

Stocking: In forestry, adequate stocking refers to a minimum number of healthy, young tree stems being present per acre. Nonstocked areas refer to those that are below the minimum requirement.

Structural diversity: Diversity in spatial arrangements or configuration of forest elements.

Stumpage: The value of timber as it stands uncut in the woods.

Subalpine: The area above the upper limit of contiguous closed forest and below the upper limit of growth. It is typically composed of a mosaic of tree patches and meadows.

Subsurface water: Water between the ground surface and water table.

Succession: The changes in vegetation and animal life that take place as a plant community develops from bare ground and approaches or moves toward climax stage.

Suspension yarding: A method of transporting logs from the point of felling to central location or landing by use of a steel cable attached to a powered winch. Variations of this system include highlead yarding and skyline yarding.

Sustainable, even-flow harvest: The volume of timber that can be harvested on state forest land without allowing for major annual variations. The department sets volumes for each decade and then divides by 10 to establish average, annual harvest levels. The actual annual harvest can vary plus/minus 25 percent from the average.

Sustained yield: The volume of timber that can be harvested on a continuing basis without major prolonged curtailment or cessation.

Tax-title lands: Lands that reverted to the counties in lieu of unpaid taxes and were transferred to the state to be managed in perpetuity as forest lands.

Thinning: Harvesting trees within stands to redistribute growth to fewer trees per acre (thus increasing value and reducing the cost of final harvest), and to achieve desired stand and landscape structure.

Threatened species: See ENDANGERED SPECIES.

Timber, Fish and Wildlife Agreement: A 1986 agreement reached between the department, tribes, environmental groups, timber companies and other state agencies that provides a statewide framework for dealing with timber and related natural resource issues.

Trust: In law, a fiduciary relationship in which one person (the trustee) holds the title to property or manages it for the benefit of another (the beneficiary).

Trust lands: Those lands held in trust and managed by the state Department of Natural Resources for the benefit of the trust beneficiaries. State forest lands are a component of trust lands.

Trust beneficiary: The person, group or institution that is to benefit from trust property. In the case of state trust lands, the beneficiaries include public schools, universities, counties, the capitol building fund and others.

Understory vegetation: Forest undergrowth; the lowest canopy layer of trees.

Wetlands: Those transitional lands between terrestrial and aquatic systems where the water table is usually at or near the surface, or the land is covered by shallow water. Wetlands must have one or more of the following attributes:

- 1) at least periodically, the land supports predominantly hydrophytes;
- 2) the substrate is predominantly undrained hydric soil;
- 3) the substrate is nonsoil and is saturated with water or covered by shallow water at some time during the growing season of each year. (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service definition)

Wind-throw: Trees blown down by the wind; also called blowdown.

Wildlife: All nondomesticated vertebrates, including fish.

Wildlife communities: The distinct assemblage of species and the relationships among its members. A wildlife community includes the vertebrate component of an ecosystem (the animals and their ecological functions).

Wildlife damage: The point beyond which the viability of a local population is likely to be lost.